

FM THE WHITE HOUSE

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

ZEM

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

25X1

SECTION DWA OF THRAE WH21888

FOR DELIVERY TO PETER RODMAN/WINSTON LORD

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

SITTO 27

OSD and NSA reviews  
completed

DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

JUNE 11, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN VIETNAM

GROUND COMBAT ACTIVITY RANGED FROM LOW LEVEL IN MILITARY REGIONS 2 AND 3 TO MODERATE IN MILITARY REGION 1 AND HEAVY IN MILITARY 4.

IN MILITARY REGION 1, ACTIVITY WAS AT A MODERATE LEVEL. THE MARINE OFFENSIVE OPERATION IN SOUTHEASTERN QUANG TRI PROVINCE HAS TERMINATED, AND FRIENDLY TROOPS HAVE RETURNED TO DEFENSIVE POSITIONS SOUTH OF THE MY CHANH RIVER.

IN MILITARY REGION 2, ACTIVITY IN KONTUM CITY AND THE REMAINDER OF THE REGION WAS AT A LOW LEVEL. OPERATIONS TO CLEAR KONTUM PASS CONTINUE.

IN MILITARY REGION 3, GROUND COMBAT ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT A LOW LEVEL. CLEARING OPERATIONS AGAINST ISOLATED POCKETS OF ENEMY RESISTANCE IN AN LOC ARE BEING CONDUCTED BY THE DEFENDERS. RESUPPLY AND MEDICAL EVACUATION ARE BEING ACCOMPLISHED.

IN MILITARY REGION 4, ENEMY ACTIVITY WAS HEAVY, CENTERING IN KIEN TUONG AND DINH TUONG PROVINCES. NUMEROUS ENEMY ATTACKS WERE ALSO REPORTED AGAINST FRIENDLY POSITIONS IN OTHER AREAS

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IN AIR ACTIVITY, A TOTAL OF 638 TACTICAL SORTIES WERE FLOWN BY U.S. AIRCRAFT, 287 OF WHICH STRUCK TARGETS IN NORTH VIETNAM. THIRTY-NINE OF 86 B-52 SORTIES HIT TARGETS RANGING NORTH FROM THE DMZ TO JUST SOUTH OF DONG HOI.

MILITARY REGION I

SOUTH VIETNAMESE MARINES HAVE TERMINATED ON SCHEDULE THEIR THREE-DAY OFFENSIVE OPERATION IN SOUTHEASTERN QUANG TRI PROVINCE. LIGHT TO MODERATE COMBAT ACTIVITY WAS EXPERIENCED; HOWEVER, NO MAJOR ENGAGEMENTS WERE REPORTED. A COMBAT OUTPOST WAS ESTABLISHED NORTH OF THE MY CHANH RIVER.

--NORTHWEST OF HUE, AIRBORNE DIVISION ELEMENTS ON A SEARCH OPERATION KILLED 21 ENEMY WHILE LOSING ONE KILLED AND SIX WOUNDED.

--GROUND COMBAT ACTIVITY IN THE VICINITY OF FIRE SUPPORT BASE BASTOGNE INCREASED YESTERDAY. RESULTS OF FOUR FRIENDLY INITIATED CONTACTS AND THREE ENEMY GROUND ATTACKS WERE 118 ENEMY KILLED. FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE REPORTED AS ONE KILLED AND 19 WOUNDED.

--TO THE SOUTHWEST OF HUE, ELEMENTS OF THE 1ST ARVN DIVISION MADE CONTACT WITH AN ENEMY FORCE YESTERDAY WHICH RESULTED IN 29 ENEMY KILLED. THERE WERE NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES.

--IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE, AN IMMINENT INCREASE IN ENEMY INITIATED ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED AND ATTACKS AGAINST QUE SON AND DUC DUC DISTRICTS ARE ANTICIPATED.

--A PRISONER DESCRIBING THE STATUS OF THE NVA 304TH DIVISION STATED THAT MORALE WAS VERY LOW, FOOD WAS SCARCE AND THAT THE DIVISION HAD SUFFERED APPROXIMATELY 30 PERCENT CASUALTIES AS OF MAY 14.

--IN TWO CONTACTS NEAR FIRE SUPPORT BASE BARBARA NORTHWEST OF HUE, 51 ENEMY WERE KILLED WHILE ARVN LOSSES WERE TWO

KILLED. AN No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/01/03 : LOC-HAK-477-3-9-0

--YESTERDAY, ENEMY SAPPERS DESTROYED ONE SPAN OF THE ROUTE 1 BRIDGE AT BA REN IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. THE BRIDGE HAS SINCE BEEN REOPENED.

--IN TWO SEPARATE CONTACTS IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE, 32 ENEMY WERE KILLED WITH NO ARVN CASUALTIES.

## MILITARY REGION 2

IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, COMBAT ACTIVITY AROUND KONTUM CITY REMAINS AT A LOW LEVEL.

--RADIO DIRECTION FINDING REVEALS THAT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE 320TH DIVISION HAS MOVED TO A POSITION SOME SIX MILES NORTH OF KONTUM CITY AFTER RETURNING FROM OPERATIONS IN THE KONTUM PASS AREA. THE 320TH PROBABLY IS UNDERSTRENGTH AS A RESULT OF EARLIER FIGHTING, AND ITS THIRD REGIMENT REMAINS SOUTH OF KONTUM CITY WITH OTHER ENEMY UNITS BLOCKING ROUTE 14 IN THE KONTUM PASS AREA.

--THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE NVA 2ND DIVISION HAS RELOCATED TO A POINT 11 MILES EAST OF KONTUM CITY, SUGGESTING THAT REGROUPING AND RESUPPLY HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT IT IS NOW READY FOR FUTURE ATTACKS.

--IN BINH DINH PROVINCE, ENEMY INDIRECT FIRE CONTINUES IN THE PHY MY/LANDING ZONE CRYSTAL AREA. HOWEVER, NO SIGNIFICANT GROUND CONTACTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. SIXTY-FIVE ENEMY BODIES WERE FOUND IN THE AREA.

--MARBLE MOUNTAIN AIRFIELD WAS HIT BY THIRTY-FOUR 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS. CASUALTIES AND DAMAGE ARE UNKNOWN.

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SECTION TWO OF THREE WH21888

FOR DELIVERY TO PETER RODMAN/WINSTON LORD

FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

SITIO 27

DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

--IN NORTHERN KONTUM PROVINCE, THE DAK PEK RANGER CAMP WAS HIT WITH 300 MORTAR ROUNDS. NO CASUALTIES OR DAMAGE WERE REPORTED.

--THE AIRFIELD AT KONTUM WAS OPEN FOR 32 HELICOPTER RESUPPLY MISSIONS ON 10 JUNE BUT SIX SORTIES WERE CANCELLED BECAUSE OF POOR WEATHER AND LIGHT ENEMY FIRE ON THE AIRFIELD.

--OPERATIONS TO CLEAR KONTUM PASS CONTINUE AS LIGHT RESISTANCE WAS REPORTED.

MILITARY REGION 3

IN MR-3, LIGHT GROUND CONTACTS, PRIMARILY FRIENDLY INITIATED, WERE REPORTED IN THE AN LOC AREA AND ALONG ROUTE 13. IN TEN CONTACTS, 86 ENEMY WERE KILLED AND 22 WEAPONS CAPTURED. IN ADDITION, ONE ENEMY T-54 TANK WAS CAPTURED WHEN IT WAS FOUND MIRED IN A B-52 BOMB CRATER.

--THE REMAINDER OF THE REGION REMAINS QUIET.

--FRIENDLY UNITS IN AN LOC CONTINUE THEIR OPERATIONS AGAINST ISOLATED POCKETS OF ENEMY RESISTANCE.

--VNAF HELICOPTERS CONDUCTED RESUPPLY AND AIR EVACUATION OF THE WOUNDED FROM AN LOC ON 11 JUNE, THE FIRST SUBSTANTIAL

AIR LANDER OPERATION INTO AN LOC IN SEVERAL WEEKS

--PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION OF A PW CAPTURED IN AN LOC ON 10 JUNE REVEALS THAT HIS BATTALION OF THE 272ND REGIMENT, 9TH VC DIVISION HAD ONLY 50 PERSONNEL LEFT.

MILITARY REGION 4

ENEMY INITIATED ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT A HEAVY LEVEL IN MANY AREAS IN THE DELTA.

--HEAVY FIGHTING AND SHELLING WERE REPORTED AROUND THE TUYEN BINH DISTRICT TOWN IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE YESTERDAY. EIGHTY PEOPLE WERE KILLED BY ENEMY ARTILLERY FIRE ON THE TOWN DURING THE DAY. A RANGER BATTALION WAS DEPLOYED TO THE AREA TO BOLSTER ARVN DEFENSES.

--MOC HOA, THE KIEN TUONG PROVINCIAL CAPITAL WAS SHELLED TWICE YESTERDAY.

--ALSO ON JUNE 10, A POPULAR FORCE OUTPOST IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE WAS OVERRUN; TWO OUTPOSTS IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE WERE ATTACKED; AND IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, FOUR OUTPOSTS WERE OVERRUN.

--IN NORTHERN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, A COMMUNIST FORCE ATTACKED THE THOI BINH DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, PENETRATING THE COMPOUND. THE ATTACK WAS REPULSED, AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES WERE ALSO ABLE TO DRIVE OFF AN ENEMY BATTALION SIGHTED LATER IN THE DAY JUST SOUTH OF THE TOWN. ANOTHER GROUND ATTACK WAS LAUNCHED LAST NIGHT. HOWEVER, CONTACT WAS BROKEN BUT SPORADIC SHELLING ATTACKS CONTINUE.

--IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, FRIENDLY ELEMENTS, WHILE CONDUCTING OPERATIONS IN THE CAI LAY-CAI BE AREA, KILLED

55 ENEMY SOLDIERS. ARVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 11 OUT

THE FOLLOWING AIRSTRIKES WERE FLOWN ON JUNE 11:

	MR 1	MR 2	MR 3	MR 4	NVN	TOTAL
TACAIR U.S.	120	111	88	32	287	638
TACAIR VNAF	86	15	52	54	0	178
ARC LIGHT	15	20	3	3	39	86(1)

(1) THERE WERE 6 ARC LIGHT SORTIES OVER CAMBODIA.

--EIGHTY-SEVEN USAF TACAIR SORTIES STRUCK TARGETS IN NORTH VIETNAM LAST NIGHT. AMONG THE MAJOR TARGETS STRUCK WERE THE LONG GIAI RAILROAD BRIDGES AND THE LONG DANG RAILROAD BRIDGE, BOTH ON THE NORTHEAST ROUTE TO CHINA. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT IS NOT YET AVAILABLE.

--USN AIRCRAFT FLEW 115 STRIKE SORTIES AGAINST THE LANG GIA HIGHWAY BRIDGE, THE TRAI BONG HIGHWAY BRIDGE, THE NAM BINH THERMAL POWER PLANT, THE NAM BINH ARMY BARRACKS AND OTHER TARGETS IN NORTH VIETNAM. THE THERMAL POWER PLANT WAS SLIGHTLY DAMAGED AND THE ARMY BARRACKS WAS 75 PERCENT DESTROYED. IN THE ACTIVITY AT NAM BINH, ONE A-7 WAS DOWNED BY PROBABLY GROUND FIRE. ITS CREW IS MISSING. TWO MIG-17S WERE SHOT DOWN IN THIS ACTIVITY WHICH TOOK PLACE ABOUT 22 MILES SOUTH OF HANOI.

--THIRTY-NINE B-52 SORTIES WERE FLOWN AGAINST POL STORAGE AREAS, WAREHOUSES, MILITARY COMPLEXES AND TRUCK PARKS FROM JUST NORTH OF THE DMZ TO WITHIN SIX MILES OF DONG HOI.

--IN SOUTH VIETNAM, SIGNIFICANT BOMB DAMAGE FROM YESTERDAY'S AIR STRIKES INCLUDES NINE TRUCKS, EIGHT GUNS, 70 SECONDARY EXPLOSIVES, 18 SECONDARY FIRES AND 118 TROOPS KILLED.

--IN AIR ACTIVITY OVER NORTH VIETNAM YESTERDAY, FOUR STORAGE AREAS, 10 TRUCKS, ONE GUN AND 50 BOATS WERE DESTROYED OR DAMAGED. ADDITIONALLY, 25 SECONDARY EXPLOSIVES AND 20

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--IN AIR ACTIVITY, UPDATED BDA ON YESTERDAY'S STRIKE ON THE LANG CHI HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT INDICATES THAT THE ATTACKING AIRCRAFT REGISTERED FOUR DIRECT HITS IN THE GENERATOR AREA. ACCOMPANYING AIRCRAFT REPORTED SEEING LARGE SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS AND WHITE SMOKE.

--IN COASTAL MINING OPERATIONS, US NAVY AIRCRAFT PLACED ANOTHER 80 MINES IN THE QUANG KHE AREA. THIS BRINGS THE TOTAL PLANTED IN COASTAL WATERWAY AND HARBORS TO 3,207.

--U.S. GUNFIRE SUPPORT SHIPS CONTINUE TO SHELL ENEMY STORAGE AREAS, TROOP CONCENTRATIONS, COASTAL DEFENSE SITES AND OTHER TARGETS ALONG THE COAST.

STATUS OF FOREIGN MERCHANT SHIPS

THERE ARE PRESENTLY 29 FOREIGN MERCHANT SHIPS IN NORTH VIETNAMESE WATERS. SIXTEEN FOREIGN SHIPS ARE CARRYING CARGO ESTIMATED TO BE DESTINED FOR NORTH VIETNAM. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY FOREIGN MERCHANT SHIPS HAVE TRANSITED THE MINEFIELDS SINCE THEIR

ACTIVATION

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POLITICAL/DIPLOMATIC

PRESIDENT THIEU PROMISES RECONQUEST OF QUANG TRI BY JUNE 19

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTED THAT ON JUNE 10 PRESIDENT THIEU TOLD A GROUP OF LEGISLATORS THAT QUANG TRI WOULD BE REOCCUPIED BY ARVN "BEFORE JUNE 19--THE ARMED FORCES DAY." THIEU SAID THAT THE MILITARY SITUATION HAS BECOME "SATISFACTORY" BUT THAT THE NVA WOULD STILL LAUNCH "FIERCE ATTACKS" WITHIN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS.

MADAME BINH DISAPPOINTED OVER OFFENSIVE

[REDACTED] MADAME BINH,

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THE PRG'S CHIEF NEGOTIATOR IN PARIS, TOLD A FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBER ON JUNE 3 THAT THE OFFENSIVE IS NOT GOING AS WELL AS EXPECTED IN THE SOUTH. SHE DENIED THAT THE SITUATION IS CRITICAL BUT NOTED THAT THE BOMBING OF THE NORTH IS BECOMING DISTURBING, THE ARVN RESISTANCE IS HARDENING AND THAT CIVILIANS ARE STILL FLEEING TOWARDS SAIGON DESPITE PRG APPEALS.

SINGAPORE'S FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENDS ARVN'S PERFORMANCE

SINGAPORE'S FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY STATED ON MAY 31 THAT HANOI'S PURPOSES HAVE BEEN THWARTED BY AN UNEXPECTEDLY GOOD PERFORMANCE OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE MINISTER STATED THAT THE WHOLE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE

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